

THE STAR IS THE ONLY NEWSPAPER IN MARION COUNTY TAKING TELEGRAPH SERVICE

EMPHATICALLY
AGAINST ITPeople of Ocala at Mass Meeting Last
Night Opposed Moving City
Works to Taylor's Pond

The proposed removal of the city's water plant from its present site to a site on Taylor's pond was unanimously condemned by a mass meeting of citizens at the court house last night, after the failure of those proposing the removal and voting for the recent resolution in council to state why the water works should be located on the pond.

The meeting was one of the largest public gatherings recently held in Ocala, was well attended by the conservative, and there was not a vote against a resolution offered by Mr. Z. C. Chambliss. The resolution, as adopted, reads:

"Resolved, That it is improper to remove the water plant from its present location to the Taylor pond lot."

Mr. Harris, editor of the Banner, stated during a rather heated speech favoring removal, that the additional equipment and building that have been provided for at the water plant were not authorized by council. President Meffert, of the council, said that the records at the city hall would show authorization, and he called upon Councilman Roess to verify this. Mr. Roess did so, saying that he had presented a resolution providing for the new equipment and building.

The chief reason given by those favoring the removal of the plant was stated by Mr. Harris. He said that the plant on its present site was objectionable to the property owners and residents of the immediate neighborhood. He read a copy of the petition recently presented to the council by citizens of the water works neighborhood. Mr. Harris did not think that the plant should be in the residential section of the city. It should be placed in Taylor's pond, he argued, because the earliest settlers of Ocala got their water from a spring in the pond, and this spring, he said, was known to have pure water. The editor denied "in toto," as he said, that the pond was a cesspool, receiving the swill and garbage of the city. He ignored the fact that the city is at present, and has been for years, dumping garbage in the pond, filling it in.

Mr. W. K. Zewadski, in a vigorous but good humored speech, said that the very reputation of Taylor's pond was enough to condemn the proposition, and the placing of the water plant there, he contended, would utterly destroy the good reputation of Ocala. It would make no difference as Mr. Zewadski, Mr. G. S. Scott, Mr. B. H. Seymour, and others pointed out, whether a well could be drilled deep enough to get rid of the surface filth in the pond. The fact that the wells would be driven through filth, if only part of the depth, would do the city untold harm.

Mr. Zewadski said, by way of diversion, that he could not understand why it was that the city could not get at least a par if not a premium for its bonds.

Mr. Chambliss said that he had attempted to get the reason for the removal of the water works, the reason of the councilmen for voting for the Smith resolution. He said that he had gotten no reason, other than that the present site was too small, all of the present wells were not being used, and that an opportunity would be given the city to sell some of its property. He thought that the councilmen who voted for the removal should give the public their reasons for the removal and for locating the plant on a dumping ground.

Mr. Roess responded, and said the real reason was one that he was reluctant to make public. It had been kept a secret, he said. He said that since the real reason was asked for he would give it. Mr. Roess said that the real reason for the removal was that one of the wells at the present plant is defective, and gave forth foreign substance of an objectionable nature. The well is not used, the councilman added.

Mr. Chambliss pointed out that the defect of this well might be easily remedied by repairing the casing. Mr. Roess gave no definite reason why the water works should be located in Taylor's pond. He also stated that the council had not taken any action that it could not rescind if the people so desired.

It was said a number of times that there were numerous good sites to be selected if the plant had to be moved. There was every reason, it was said, against placing the plant in the pond. Mr. Seymour pointed out that, for

one, he was willing to listen to the engineers and chemists.

An editorial was read by Mr. Harris, and a written reply by President Meffert was read by Senator Carney, who presided over the gathering.

The proponents stated that the placing of wells on Taylor's pond could be no more objectionable than making ice from water obtained from wells on property adjoining the pond. In reply to this it was said most emphatically that the water frozen stood the test of government chemists, and furthermore the water used for the ice was not water direct from the wells but converted steam.

Mr. Meffert stated that the council had been favorable to the combined water and electric plant on the site of the present water works, for which plans have been drawn, and then, suddenly, there was a change. He said that no reason had been given for the sudden change. No reason had been made public, he said, why or how this sudden change came about.

Mr. Meffert predicted that the city would have to be placed in the hands of receivers by next March, unless something be done to take care of finances. He said there was no fund for completing the addition begun recently at the water works. Something should be done at once, he said.

It was stressed throughout the meeting that with its present supply of water Ocala is one of the healthiest cities in the state. Many false reports were in circulation, it was said. Some thought it might be worth while to select a new site for the proposed water works in order that all false reports might be killed. The overwhelming sentiment of the meeting was that the water works should be no means be placed on Taylor's pond, and that, if the plant be moved at all, the best possible site would be none too good.

FROM COLONEL ROGERS

Ocala, Sept. 14, 1915.

Editor Star: I did not attend the mass meeting last night for two reasons. First, I do not care to take any part in city factional politics. Second, the time to have held a mass meeting to condemn Taylor's pond, was when the city council gave \$4000 for it for the location of the city water and light plant.

As a private citizen I am unalterably opposed to the present location for two reasons. First, it is an undisputed fact, that there is ten sewer wells within a circle of three hundred yards of the present city wells. That the water is contaminated at the present site by those sewer wells is evidenced by the fact that the casing of one of the deep city wells has rusted through and the contaminated sewer water comes into the deep well through the rusted hole in the casing, so the city council has shut off the water from this well to keep the city from using it. If one of the city wells at this location should become contaminated from the ten sewer wells near by, why not all be contaminated under similar conditions.

My next objection to the present location is a lack of room to build the new water and light plant upon the city lot, and the city council informs me that no more land can be purchased at the present site. I can not understand that it will cost any more to combine and build a new city water and light plant on a new site than to build on the old, or present site, for the reason that the old or present plants must continue to run and furnish water and light to the city up to the minute that the new plant is ready to take the place of the old ones, and the old plants shut down to be used no more.

I can not understand why the prejudice against Taylor's pond. Mr. Taylor drilled a deep well there and had the water analyzed and it was found as good as any Ocala water and from that well the ice used by Ocala is manufactured. Again there is high dry land, I am told, around the pond on the city property, where no garbage has ever been dumped and where no surface water has ever stood. The wells could be drilled on this dry land.

But, to leave the Taylor pond site. Why not accept Mr. Seymour's proposal to give the city free of charge a large lot with ample room where there are no sewerage wells to contaminate the city water and not far away from where the new union passenger station will soon be built. This is as good as the very best site in or about the city of Ocala.

If not Mr. Seymour's site my earnest desire for future developments is that a new location be found and remove the city wells from the present site. In West Ocala, if not North Ocala, in South or East Ocala is to me far more preferable than Central Ocala surrounded by sewer wells. However, the council has acted and I shall stand by them. Yours for the best for Ocala, R. F. Rogers.

Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer, the best, purest and most healthful of ALL summer drinks, at Johnny's Place, tf.

COMPETING FOR
THE CONTRACTTHIRTEEN RELIABLE FIRMS
WANT TO PUT IN OCALA'S
SEWERAGE SYSTEM

Mr. Robert L. West of the J. B. McCrary Co., consulting engineers for the Ocala sewerage system, and Mr. J. C. Cook of Atlanta, one of the competent engineers of that big and efficient firm, paid the Star a brief but pleasant call this afternoon, and gave us the following list of names of the firms that will bid for the contract this afternoon:

G. M. Ensign, Inc., Harrisburg, Pa.; J. F. Morgan Contracting Co., Atlanta; J. B. Sheets Co., Pittsburgh; Sullivan, Long & Hogarty, Bessemer, Ala.; Independent Construction Co., Terre Haute, Ind.; Houser & Storm, Tampa; Nichols & Flynn, Chattanooga; Guild & Co., Chattanooga; H. W. Tucker, Ocala; Bryan & Co., Jacksonville; W. J. Erwin & Son, Greenville, O.; Whaley & Edwards, Milan, Mich.; Duval & Ashworth, Miami.

The bids will be opened at 3 o'clock this afternoon, and the council will decide on them either this afternoon or at a later meeting, perhaps this evening.

GREAT OCCASION AT THE
WISSAHICKON GROVESecretary Rooney Tells of a Pleasant
and Profitable Day Near Sparr

At the personal request of Mr. John Kendig, one of the owners of the famous Wissahickon Grove, I was invited to attend the picnic at the grove today. Leaving the city at 9 a. m. in Mr. Britt Sanders' famous little Maxwell we were soon wending our way out from Sparr through the hammock and big trees, reaching the grove in remarkably short time. This being our first visit we were greatly surprised at the splendid conditions of the grove; buildings freshly painted, grounds clean and tidy. This grove is one of the best in the state is well fruited and presents a high state of culture that speaks volumes for the manager.

Immediately upon our arrival, and through the courtesy of Senator Carney, we met Mr. Geo. C. Carlton, the superintendent, together with many of his neighbors and friends.

From Mr. Carlton I learned that I was expected to take charge of the ceremonies and arrange the speakers and look after the other exercises. This honor I gratefully accepted, and proceeded to make arrangements accordingly. As representatives were expected from the State University and Experiment Station the program carried out as follows:

Having been introduced by Senator Carney, who made the duties so much easier by his remarks, it was a privilege to present in full the invitation sent me by Mr. Kendig, from his home in Philadelphia, it being such an expression as can only come from the heart of a true man, and which was as follows:

"September 3, 1915.

"My Neighbors and Friends:

"Some of the great expositions of the country have been opened and the machinery set in motion by the president of the United States, sitting in his chair at Washington, touching an electric button.

"Great as the pleasure must be to open an event of this kind in such an easy way, it is nothing in comparison to the pleasure it would give me to be present today and greet you with a friendly pressure of the hand. Some of you I have known for many years. I have warm friends in Marion county. It would be a privilege to meet and greet all of you today in person.

"That being impossible, through the written word, I bid you all welcome to this grove and to the feast of reason and flow of soul provided for you. I have long desired just such an event as my able and hospitable friend and superintendent, George L. Carlton, has planned and carried out. I want to show my appreciation to the good people of Marion county for their kindly treatment of me during the almost thirty years I have been a sojourner in their midst.

"On Mr. Carlton will fall the duty and privilege of making this day one of pleasure and profit to you. He has always stood for the right and the best, and I honor him for his upright life and the good he has done for our community.

"I hope it is well with you and family, your interests. I invoke upon you all the blessings of Almighty God, whose we are and to whom we are indebted for all we have.

"Sincerely yours,

"John Kendig."

Having read this sincere message sent by Mr. Kendig, I presented Miss Burton, who has received her education in the famous schools of Boston, and who is a pronounced pupil

and instructor in elocution, and of whom Sparr should be proud. Her rendition of "Country Eggs" was splendid. The close attention of the audience and the outburst of applause at its completion was a most pleasing recognition.

Then came "Jack." Who? Why Marion's demonstration agent, S. J. McCully. It was clearly shown in presenting him that the Marion County Board of Trade was the first in the state to throw open its doors at the beginning of this work in Florida and to provide desk room for the demonstration agent. Mr. McCully's talk along the lines of the work of a demonstration agent in all its phases, was a thorough and practical setting forth of the true conditions and the results obtained, touching on the use of hog cholera serum, vaccination, etc., the boys in the "Corn Club" work, who will demonstrate what Marion's land will grow and what a factor they are in educating their "Dads" in how to grow better corn with a larger yield per acre. His recommendation of the "Farmer's Short Course" and his securing this from the board of education. "Jack" should have been heard to appreciate the force and the logic embodied in his remarks. With the conclusion of Mr. McCully's interesting and beneficial talk the dinner hour was announced.

It has been my pleasure to attend many functions, eat many good dinners and read of tables that groaned under the weight of bounteous luxuries. But think, oh ye people who were not there! Preparation for 1000 and an attendance of 300. Think what you missed, ye poor hungry ones. Don't let your mouth water when you read this. There was chicken; fried, baked and in pie; all steaming hot. Barbecued beef, country ham, home made bread, cakes, pickles, salads, hot coffee, iced tea, water and lemonade. The land of "milk and honey." The command was, fill up your plates and keep it up—pile on more, and the good women following you around begging that you "eat something."

As I write this I still enjoy the memory of one of the finest picnic dinners ever spread in Marion county. Under beautiful oak trees, the grass so clean, the houses so fresh and spotless. A platform for the speakers, music furnished by violin, guitar and piano and seats all around under the trees for comfort.

Immediately after dinner and the rendition of several pieces of excellent music, the afternoon program was taken up.

The program was opened by a pantomime rendered by Misses Alma Jordan, Mabel Perry, Elen Perry and Marie Eldridge, while Mrs. John Carlton and Mrs. Grantham sang "Abide with Me," with Mrs. Geo. Carlton at the piano. This number of the program was most impressive and well executed.

The real features of the program were reached at this point when the gentlemen from Gainesville, who had arrived in time for dinner, took part in the exercises.

It was indeed a pleasure to introduce Mr. R. N. Wilson, entomologist from the department of agriculture at Washington, who is making a special study in Florida of the insects and pests attacking our cereal and forage crops. Mr. Wilson's address was interesting and educational and it was listened to with rapt attention. He handled his subject in such a manner as to prove his deep thought and careful study of it.

Following the remarks of Mr. Wilson Prof. S. E. Collison, one of the new members of the state university faculty, took the platform. His scientific diagnosis of soils, application of drainage, conservation of rainfall, proper crops, application of lime and its relative values as caustic in ground limestone and hydrated lime, what lime does and will do for our soils, advocating the use of ground lime or agricultural lime for the getting of best results, and the use of fertilizers all evidenced his thorough knowledge of these important subjects.

At this juncture the real talk of the day was given. Having presented Prof. C. K. McQuarrie, state agent or the man under whom all demonstration agents are guided.

First the professor explained what the work was, its origination and growth, its vastness and importance. His reference to the fact that agriculture and mining were the only two great agencies producing the combined resources of the world produced food for thought. Prof. McQuarrie handled his subject so practically and with such a clear delineation of each and every feature that every farmer in the state of Florida would have been greatly benefited to have heard his remarks. It has truly been said, and I wish to emphasize it, that Mr. McQuarrie is one of the most thorough practical men the government has so far placed in this great field of opportunity. He passed one special eulogy on the day and its pleasures. He said, it was the first picnic he had ever attended in Florida, where iced tea was served to the guests.

(Concluded on Fourth Page)

BIG LOSSES
FOR BRITAINALMOST FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND
KILLED, WOUNDED OR
MISSING IN A YEAR

(Associated Press)

London, Sept. 14.—It was officially announced in the house of commons today that the British casualties since the war began totals 381,000 officers and men killed, wounded or missing. The losses were not so heavy during the summer as in April and May due to comparative inaction on the western front. It is assumed most of the casualties of the summer were at the Dardanelles.

CONSIDERING CONSCRIPTION

The official admission that the cabinet is seriously considering conscription was made public for the first time in the house of commons. Premier Asquith is expected to give a general review of the military and financial situation tomorrow.

ANOTHER AIR RAID

Another air raid occurred last night on the east coast. An official statement says only one Zeppelin appeared and there were no casualties. The Star says the casualties from raids for the past seven days total 166.

DAVIS LAW IS
EASY TO DODGEDevotees of Bacchus can Adjoin to
Parlors Next Door to Saloons
and Enjoy their Drinks

(Tampa Times)

Arrangements are being made, it is said, for "drinking parlors" that will take the place of saloons and practically nullify the Davis package law, so far as the abolition of public drinking that was expected of it. In the larger cities of the state the "parlors," "rest rooms," or whatever they will be called are expected to spring into existence October 1, to relieve the drought and reap a golden harvest the venturers into this unknown field expect to reap.

While "invisible" connections may exist between these "parlors" and the saloons, any direct relation between the proprietor of the one and that of the other would make the saloonist liable to arrest and prosecution, and would mean the forfeiture of his license as well. But under the plan as it is understood by some and is being worked out there will be profit enough for the parlor operator without any subsidy on the part of the saloonist.

Can't Drink in Place Where Bought
There is nothing in the Davis package law, regulating the drinking of liquor once the purchaser is outside the doors of the place where it was purchased. He can not drink it within the saloon—the denatured saloon of the next two years, if the Davis law is not knocked out—but he can step out of the front door, on to the sidewalk, about face and walk into the next store.

And if that "next store" is conveniently arranged, with chairs and tables, a nice party might be had with the supply of liquor or beer purchased on the outside. The parlor will doubtless—if it becomes an actual fact, as some say it will—be equipped with seltzer, glasses, ice, lemons, cherries—aye, even olives—and the like for the convenience of the patrons. A "nominal" charge might be made for the use of the table, or even for admission to the parlor.

It is a bit inconvenient to go into a saloon and buy the "booze" and tote it into another place to drink, and there may be some who are prejudiced against so great exertion. For their assistance it is quite likely the management of the parlor will have a "porter," who if handed the proper change—and possibly a dime more—will step out and make the purchase.

Such a porter would doubtless be an expert mixologist—for there are quite a few bartenders who will have to look for other places, and what would be more natural than that they would seek employment next door to their former haunts? And having brought the spirituous ingredients back it is not without range of possibility that he might supply seltzer. There might be a charge for the service—but there would be no sale of liquor.

Of course, the 6 o'clock closing restricts the business a little, as after that hour it would not be possible to send the porter out for a fresh sup-

GREAT PRESSURE
IN GALICIAFROM RUSSIANS IMPERILS THE
TEUTONIC SUCCESS ON
OTHER FRONTS

(Associated Press)

London, Sept. 14.—Hindenberg's drive near Dvinsk, where the railroad leading from Vilna to Petrograd has been reached, again menaces railway communications with the Russian capital. Comparative Russian successes in other sections during the last fortnight, however, causes the Russians to view the latest threat against Petrograd with no great alarm. British opinion is that the Courland campaign is costing the Germans heavily in men and supplies and is likely to fail unless the Russian offensive on the other extreme of the lone front can be stopped soon.

In the latest attacks in eastern Galicia, the Russians are reported to have penetrated the Austro-German trenches in face of a heavy artillery fire. To the north, the Russians are withdrawing steadily from the dangerous Niemen salient, opposing the German advance merely by stubborn rear guard actions.

BIG GUNS ARE BUSY

A tremendous duel of big guns still marks operations along the Franco-Belgian and Italian fronts. There is very little infantry activity on either side.

OTTOMANS MAY HAVE ENOUGH
From the near east comes reports that the Turks are firing villages on the Asiatic shore of the Dardanelles, and it is suggested they might be preparing to abandon the straits. It is also reported that the Turkish shore batteries on the Asiatic side are reduced almost to silence.

ARBITRATION IS
NOT IN ISSUEAMERICA NOT READY TO DIS-
CUSS IT IN CONNECTION
WITH SINKING THE
ARABIC

(Associated Press)

Washington, Sept. 14.—The United States government is not yet ready to discuss with Germany the question of arbitration in connection with the sinking of the Arabic. It is stated by a high government official that "the question of arbitration is not in issue."

GERMANY KNOWS PRESIDENT
WILSON'S VIEWS

The German ambassador has sent the president's views to Berlin. The disposition of the United States government is to give Germany adequate time to consider the United States' viewpoint. Some officials believe Germany will disavow the act, as the United States wishes, when she gets the evidence the United States has submitted to the German ambassador.

JITNEY BUS LINE FOR OCALA

A gentleman from a neighboring city is contemplating putting a line of jitney buses in Ocala in the near future. The present plan is to run buses on a schedule that will give practically every part of town a good service every twenty-five minutes during the week days, and a one-hour service on Sundays. Should he put in these buses it is his intention to run Sunday trips to Lake Weir and Silver Springs at rates that would make these points very attractive to many of our citizens who cannot ordinarily afford the transportation charges as they are at present.

The party in question is now looking over the ground and expects to have his line in operation in a very few weeks if he decides that the proposition is a paying one.

LECTURE AT KENDRICK

Mr. H. W. Dohrmann will lecture on Panama at the Kendrick church tomorrow (Wednesday) evening. Mr. Dohrmann has traveled over the Panama section of the country extensively, and his lectures are said to be very interesting and instructive. The public is invited to attend this lecture.

A new line of high grade stationery in all the latest styles and cuts at Gerig's.

For plumbing and electrical work see H. W. Tucker. Phone 300. tf